

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Masahiro YAMAGATA

SERIAL NO: New Application

GAU:

FILED: Herewith

EXAMINER:

FOR: WASTE HIGH-PRESSURE FLUID PROCESSING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

Reference AO (3010099) of Form PTO-1449:

See Figs. 1, 2.

A supercritical fluid extractor is described in this prior art. Liquid carbon dioxide is used as a supercritical fluid, and water is used as a dissolution auxiliary. The supercritical fluid extractor consisting of a separation means has separators for separating and recovering the extraction components extracted into solvent. The separation means is provided with plural separators, that is, a 1st separator for separating the extraction components, a 2nd separator for removing the extraction components not separated and recovered by the 1st separator and water, a 3rd separator for removing the residue not separated and recovered by the separators and a 4th separator for removing the trace moisture.

Reference AP (2000-223467) of Form PTO-1449:

See Fig. 1.

A method of drying the substrate using carbon dioxide converted into supercritical fluid is described in this prior art. The substrate is held in a reaction chamber into which a specified quantity of liquefied carbon dioxide is fed from a cylinder by means of a pump unit. Pressure of carbon dioxide in the reaction chamber is controlled automatically. Carbon dioxide in the reaction chamber is converted into supercritical fluid and discharged therefrom thus reducing the pressure and drying the substrate.

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 239785US3		SERIAL NO. New Application	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Masahiro YAMAGATA					
		FILING DATE Herewith				GROUP	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2002/0132192 A1	09/19/02	Hideo NAMATSU			
	AB	6,358,673 B1	03/19/02	Hideo NAMATSU			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
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	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
	AO	3010099	02/14/00	Japan	YES		X
	AP	2000-223467	08/11/00	Japan			X
	AO	EP 0 992 852 A2	04/12/00	Europe			
	AR	WO 01/78911 A1	10/25/01	WIPO			
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner				Date Considered			

*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.